MINUTES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
36TH ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2026

The 36th Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd was called to order by Fr. Joe Hudson prior to the Sunday worship service at 10:04 a.m. with 159 parishioners in attendance.

Senior Warden Bob Sawyer explained the qualifications required to be a candidate for the Vestry and presented the three Vestry candidates who had been selected by the Nominating Committee: Carol Gargon, John Pearson, and Rich Trautwein. Fr. Joe called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion was requested to elect the three candidates by acclimation. Holly Wilson so moved, and the motion was seconded by Dave Beall. The motion passed unanimously. Fr. Joe then requested a motion to adjourn the meeting and to reconvene following the worship service. Mary-Jo Cooney so moved, and the motion was seconded by Ed Silva. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the regular 10:00 service, the Annual Meeting was reconvened and called to order in the Parish Hall at 11:45 with 112 in attendance.

Senior Warden, Bob Sawyer, called for a motion to approve the minutes from the 35th Annual Meeting. John Johnson moved to so approve. Ann Peck seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Bob introduced the 2026 Vestry by welcoming the new Vestry members, Carol Gargon, John Pearson, and Rich Trautwein, and by recognizing the existing members of the Vestry: Junior Warden Paul Altimier, Joe Bentley, Libby Chinman, Barbara Davis, Pat McNickle, and Megarie van Sickel. Bob also presented Lynne Altimier, Treasurer, and Judy Jarvis, Clerk of the Vestry. Fr. Joe then asked the Vestry members who had completed their terms to stand. Retiring Vestry members this year are Senior Warden Bob Sawyer, Ruth Bruno, and Ed Silva. All were recognized with rounds of applause.

Fr. Joe went on to explain that the responsibilities assigned to various Vestry members is in transition from hands-on responsibility to more of a liaison between the various ministries and the Vestry. He foresees the Vestry's function to be more visionary: on where the Church is and where we might be called to go.

Fr. Joe then moved on to service recognition. He began with Bob Sawyer whom he and Desiree first met when the Church was searching for a new Rector. He spoke of Bob's dedication as Senior Warden beginning at the front end of covid and, following Christine Puthoff, returning to finish up after Ian. Fr. Joe expressed great thankfulness for all the gifts Bob has brought to this parish, and he pointed out that Bob will still be active at Good Shepherd, taking over the Welcome Team and also serving as Assistant Treasurer.

Fr. Joe also acknowledged Lynne Altimier. He spoke of the past year's difficulties with the financial software program and the amount of work involved in changing banks from Wells Fargo to Bank of America. Fr. Joe asked for a round of applause in recognition of the hours and hours of work that both Lynne and Bob Sawyer have contributed to sorting through these difficulties. Thanking all of the parishioners who contribute so much time and talent, Fr. Joe also acknowledged Bob Clark who oversaw the grounds and John Buntel who oversaw the building for Junior Warden Paul Altimier's occasional absences. Fr. Joe then presented our new Senior Warden, Megarie van Sickel, pointing out her qualifications and emphasizing that he expects her to be a great Senior Warden. Finally, Fr. Joe thanked Dave Beall, our Treasurer

Emeritus, stating that it is because of Dave's work that our parish is as financially secure as it is.

Fr. Joe then handed the meeting over to Lynne Altimier for the Treasurer's report. Lynne went over the highlights of the 2025 budget referring to the information in the Annual Report. Lynne then went to the 2026 Budget which was approved by the Vestry on January 6, 2026, She stated that an increase in both revenue and expenses are anticipated. Increase in revenue is anticipated based on the amount pledged and on interest from investments. Lynne finished her report by stating that the expected deficit will be managed over 12 months as the year progresses and, if necessary, some cuts will be implemented. Lynne especially thanked Bob Sawyer for his help and support. She also thanked Dave Beall for his continued insight and experience. In addition, Lynne also acknowledged and thanked the other members of the Finance Committee: Fr. Joe, Bob Sawyer, John Buntel, Steve Eibling, and Paul Altimier. In finishing, Lynne thanked the 2025 Audit Committee: Joe Bentley, Barbara Davis, and Pat McNickle for their great work in completing the audit in record time.

Fr. Joe then called Dave Beall forward to speak about the Endowment Fund. Dave narrated the history of the Fund. Over the past 8 years, from the original $8,000 used to start the Fund, the Fund has grown to over $332,000. More information will be sent to parishioners in March about the fund and contribution opportunities. Dave thanked everyone for their ongoing support.

Fr. Joe went on to provide information about his upcoming sabbatical. He said he had been in active ministry since 1994 and in those 31 years has never been on sabbatical. Fr. Joe's sabbatical will begin about a week after Easter. He and Desiree will begin with a month's trip to Italy with ten days on a pilgrimage. They will continue the time there not as tourists but in continuing a self-guided pilgrimage. Following that, Fr. Joe will fly to New Jersey for a thirty-day silent retreat. After completing this sabbatical, Fr. Joe and Desiree will go on a diving trip before returning to Venice.

Closing thanks went to Nancy Fees for putting together the Annual Report. Recognition also went to Ella Fast, our new Parish Administrator and to Amy Worch ;;;;ester, our new bookkeeper as well as to our choirmaster Chuck Bradley for all of their contributions to the parish.

Fr. Joe closed with a prayer and a blessing. He adjourned the meeting at 12:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Jarvis
Clerk of the Vestry